

PREVENTION

IDAHO CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND NEWSLETTER

Child Sexual Abuse: Why We All Need to Learn About It

I know what you're thinking – "I don't even want to know about that. It doesn't happen to any children I know, so why should I have to learn about it?"

The sad truth is that children you know and care about may be victims of child sexual abuse. And even more difficult to believe is the fact that adults or teens you know and love may be the perpetrators of this abuse. Studies show that 1 in 5 girls, and 1 in 7 boys will be sexually abused before they reach the age of 18.

Most sexual abusers (88%) are never reported to law enforcement, and in 90% of child sexual abuse cases, the child knows and trusts the person who commits the abuse. Unfortunately, we can't tell who the abusers are by the way they look, and since most are never reported, just making sure that convicted sexual abusers register with law enforcement does not help keep children safe.

In child sexual abuse, children are the victims. We must not expect them to be able to stop the abuse from occurring. We, as adults must believe that child sexual abuse is a problem in all of our communities. Adults need to learn to see when people are acting strange around kids, and we need to learn what to do when we think a person is harming a child in a sexual way. Do you know what to watch for when adults

are with children in order to keep kids safe from sexual abuse? If you are not sure, you are not alone. (See sidebar.) In a study conducted by Stop It Now! less than half of the adults polled were able to recognize even

one warning sign of an adult who may be sexually abusing a child.

Interestingly, almost 85% of adults could identify at least one typical warning sign of a child who is being sexually abused.

Unfortunately, recognizing child abuse after the fact does not help to prevent the devastation caused to the child and their family by the abuse. Stop It Now! and the Campaign to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse is a non-profit organization founded to stop sexual abuse of children by encouraging and educating adults to prevent the abuse using public health prevention tools. Stop It Now! operates a toll-free Help line

(1-888-773-8368) for resources and information about child sexual abuse.

"The Help line is available for anyone concerned about sexually inappropriate behaviors in themselves, in another adult, adolescent or child. Professional staff provides an opportunity for you or any concerned caller to gather information, talk through a situation, and explore options for taking action in a confidential setting." More information about Stop It Now! is available on their website at www.stopitnow.org.

Learning more about the sexual abuse of children, and the adults and adolescents who are perpetrating the abuse will make a world of difference for your children and all the children of Idaho. Contact the ICTF office for

a free copy of the booklet, *Because There Is a Way to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse: Facts About Abuse and Those Who Might Commit It* published by Stop It Now!, or go to their website at www.stopitnow.org to learn more.

What to Watch Out for When Adults are with Children

Have you ever seen someone interacting with a child and felt uncomfortable? Here is a list of warning signs that may mean you should ask more questions. Call the Stop It Now! Help line (1-888-PREVENT) for tips on how to talk to adults about their behavior with children.

Do you know an adult or adolescent who:

- Refuses to let a child set any of his or her own limits?
- Insists on hugging, touching, kissing, tickling, wrestling with or holding a child even when the child does not want this affection?
- Is overly interested in the sexuality of a particular child? (Talks repeatedly about the child's developing body, or interferes with normal teen dating.)
- Manages to get time alone or insists on time alone with a child with no interruptions?
- Spends most of his/her spare time with children and has little interest in spending time with people their own age?
- Regularly offers to babysit many different children for free or takes children on overnight outings alone?
- Buys children expensive gifts or gives them money for no apparent reason?
- Frequently walks in on children/teens in the bathroom?
- Allows children/teens to consistently get away with inappropriate behaviors?

Idaho Children's Trust Fund Board Members

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Children's Trust Fund Announces Region Changes

With the goal of equitable distribution of grant funds throughout the state, the Children's Trust Fund board has revised the map of geographic regions that it uses to disperse funds. Previously, the state was divided into three regions; north, southwest and east.

Funds for grants were divided equally among the three regions, which became a challenge when deciding on which grant

applications to fund in the southwest region. Idaho's two most populated counties, Ada and Canyon, fell within the southwest region boundaries. Consequently, the southwest regional grant review panel received twice and sometimes even three times the amount of applications as the north and east, but had the same amount of money to grant.

The new and improved ICTF regional map has five Idaho regions:



- North: Boundary, Benewah, Bonner, Kootenai, Shoshone, Latah, Clearwater, Nez Perce, Lewis and Idaho counties.
- West: Adams, Washington, Payette, Gem, Canyon, Owyhee, Valley, Boise and Elmore counties.
- Ada
- Central: Blaine, Camas, Gooding, Lincoln, Jerome, Minidoka, Cassia, Custer, Lemhi, Butte, and Twin Falls counties.
- East: Clark, Jefferson, Fremont, Madison, Teton, Bonneville, Bingham, Power, Bannock, Caribou, Oneida, Franklin and Bear Lake counties.

The new regional map will be used beginning with the 2005 – 2006 grant cycle (for grant applications due March 15, 2005). If you are interested in becoming a member of your region's Grant Review Panel, please contact our office for more information before October 15, 2004.

2003 – 2004 Trust Fund Grantees Complete Projects

Final reports are in for the 03-04 grant projects. Twenty-four programs have completed their services for this fiscal year. Thanks to the hard work of all these people, we are seeing improved parenting skills, increased understanding of positive discipline techniques, increased support

and skill development for low income families, and increased outreach and services provided to Hispanic families and parents and children with disabilities. The ICTF grantees have shown documented improvement in helping Idahoans prevent child abuse and neglect.

Children's Trust Fund Awards Grants for 2004 – 2005

The Idaho Children's Trust Fund is pleased to award a total of \$146,247 in two grant categories to 22 programs providing family support and child abuse prevention activities across Idaho. New grant projects began July 1.

For more detailed information about a project in your area, you'll find descriptions of each project on our website.

2004 – 2005 MINI GRANTS

Mini Grants are funded from the tax check-off donations, business and private contributions, and our federal Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention grant.

North		
ICARE, Coeur d'Alene	ICARE Parenting Classes	\$8,000.00
Lewiston School District, Lewiston	Love and Logic Parenting Classes	\$5,300.00
Panhandle Health District 1	High Risk Infant/Toddler Program	\$8,000.00
Young Children and Family Programs of the Palouse (YCFP)	High Risk Parent Education	\$8,000.00
Southwest		
Grace Episcopal Church, Nampa	Open Arms Baby Boutique	\$7,000.00
Neighborhood Housing Services, Boise	Homeward Bound	\$8,000.00
PAYADA, Boise	Parenting Challenge	\$6,992.00
St.Luke's Health Foundation, Boise	Infant Comfort Kits to Prevent Child Abuse	\$6,000.00
Terry Reilly Health Services, Boise	Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Education	\$6,992.00
The Family Place, Payette	Family Fun Nights	\$3,600.00
East		
Family Safety Network, Driggs	Baby & Me	\$7,169.00
Lemhi's After School Promise, Salmon	Lemhi's After School Program	\$8,000.00
Malad Elementary School, Malad	Parenting Classes and Monthly Dinner and Book Night	\$5,194.00
Statewide		
Parents Encouraging Parents PEP, Grangeville	PEP Online Parenting Classes	\$5,045.00
Shepherd's Home, Inc., McCall	Respite Care	\$2,955.00

2004 – 2005 TARGET GRANTS

Target Grants are funded from our federal Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention Grant, and must be targeted specifically for Hispanic or Tribal populations, or families that have a parent or child who is disabled.

Family Safety Network, Driggs (Hispanic)	Baby & Me Spanish	\$3,193.00
Family Services Alliance of SE Idaho, Idaho Falls (Disabled)	Family Support Program	\$6,714.00
HELP, Inc., Exchange Club CAP Center, Pocatello (Hispanic)	El Valor de los Padres	\$10,000.00
Idaho Hands & Voices, Boise (Disabled)	Idaho Hands & Voices	\$6,000.00
Middleton School District, Middleton (Hispanic)	Parents as Teachers	\$10,000.00
Families Together & Parent to Parent, Moscow (Disabled and Tribal)	Family Enrichment Weekend	\$10,000.00
St. Luke's Center for Community Health, Hailey (Hispanic)	Familias Saludables	\$4,093.00

Long Time Board Members Leave

Caryn Crawford of Ketchum and Judy DeRoche of Idaho Falls became members of the board at the same time, almost a decade ago. They chose to leave together too. Caryn and Judy made the difficult decision not to seek re-appointment to the Idaho Children's Trust Fund board when their terms expired in June. As Caryn said, "The decision to leave the Trust Fund is bittersweet. I'm so proud of the work that we've accomplished, and also sad at leaving the relationships developed through the ICTF." Both women felt that after nine years of service it was time to give others the opportunity to become involved in the Children's Trust Fund.

Judy served as board chair from 1996 to 2000, while Caryn finished out her term as board chair from 2003 to 2004. Please join us in thanking Caryn and Judy for their dedication to keeping Idaho's children safe from abuse, and wishing them well on their continuing journey of life.

If you live in Region V (Camas, Blaine, Gooding, Lincoln, Jerome, Twin Falls, Minidoka and Cassia counties) or Region VII (Bonneville, Butte, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Jefferson, Lemhi, Madison and Teton counties) and are interested in being appointed to the ICTF as the representative from your region, please contact the ICTF office for more information.

Would you prefer to receive our newsletter through email? Let us know by sending a message to hausnarn@idhw.state.id.us with the word Newsletter in the subject line.

ICTF Grant Program Workshops

The staff of the Idaho Children's Trust Fund will present free workshops designed to assist organizations who would like to apply for a grant from the ICTF in 2005. The trainings will address what kinds of projects are considered child abuse prevention, the Logic Model component of the application, how to structure your budget,

and other information regarding the grant applications. While details are not yet finalized, the workshops are scheduled for November 2004, and will be held in Coeur d'Alene, Lewiston, Nampa, Boise, Twin Falls, Pocatello and Rexburg. Information about dates and times will be posted on our website in late September.

Thank You for Donating Through Your Income Tax Return

The majority of the money raised for the Children's Trust Fund comes from donations made through the State of Idaho income tax form. Unfortunately, we aren't able to learn the names of the generous Idahoans who choose to support us by donating through their tax form. If you would like to be acknowledged for your contribution, please contact us by email at hausnern@idhw.state.id.us; by phone at 208-386-9317; or in a letter mailed to the ICTF, P.O. Box 2015, Boise, ID 83701. We would love to hear from you! On behalf of the Idaho Children's Trust Fund and the programs we fund, thank you.

46. I wish to donate to the Children's Trust Fund/Child Abuse Prevention....._	46	100	00
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Calendar

September 15 Outcome Accountability Workshop for ICTF Grantees – North YCFP 312 S. Main Moscow, ID 1 – 4 pm

September 20 Outcome Accountability Workshop for ICTF Grantees – South ICTF 304 W. State St. Boise, ID 1 – 4 pm

September 22 Outcome Accountability Workshop for ICTF Grantees – East Help, Inc. 1330 Enterprise #4 Idaho Falls 1 – 4 pm

November 8 – 19 Grant Program Workshops for organizations interested in applying for ICTF grants in 2005. Workshops to be held in:

- Coeur d'Alene
- Nampa
- Twin Falls
- Rexburg
- Lewiston
- Boise
- Pocatello

Details to be posted on ICTF website in late September.

To contact the Idaho Children's Trust Fund:

By phone:
208-386-9317

By fax:
208-386-9955

By mail:
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